



CALPEEK

CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK

P.O. BOX 1468, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90213
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(310) 659-0205

VOL. XVII
No. 31

AUG. 14, 1995

WILSON STUMBLES ON NBC-TV'S MEET THE PRESS.

Editor's note: CA Gov. Pete Wilson's presidential campaign hyped the hell out of their candidate's Aug. 6th appearance on NBC-TV's Meet the Press. So we watched. Here's our analysis...

...On a scale of 1-to-10, with 10 being a knock-out performance, Wilson scored a 3. It wasn't one of his better interviews. And he sounded terrible. It's that voice thing. The only break Wilson got was that in the L.A. Times Aug. 7th edition, the story by Dave Lesher was buried on page 7 --- but the headline was terrible: ***Wilson Confronts Charges of Broken Pledges, Flip-Flops***. Flip-Flops is a very negative political buzz word. The odds are pretty good that this story, as well as the recent column by the Sacto BEE's Dan Walters, will be headed east, for distribution in New Hampshire and Iowa by Wilson's GOP presidential foes...

...The interview started off bad and got worse. On the issue of affirmative action, moderator Tim Russert noted that while mayor of San Diego and as governor, Wilson had been a supporter of affirmative action programs. Aside from saying he's changed, he just didn't sound all that convincing --- and he took a modest swipe at one of his key supporters, MA Gov. Bill Weld(R), who favors affirmative action. Not smart...

...On taxes, Wilson again took the ***no new taxes pledge***, but Washington Post columnist David Broder nailed him --- noting that Wilson had made a similar promise to Calif. voters, only to break it. What did Wilson do? Blamed the Demo controlled legislature for the tax hike, but swallowed crow when he admitted twisting some GOP arms to vote for his budget...

...But the big screw up on Wilson's part occurred when the panel started questioning him about abortion. He repeated his ***pro-choice*** line, but said there should be

no taxpayer funding for abortions. How does that square with his recent solid stance against ***pro-life GOP*** legislators, who refused to support the 1995-96 budget unless abortion funding was reduced? Answer: it doesn't. Wilson's responses in this area have angered moderate, pro-choice GOP voters...

...FYI: Wilson's campaign is now testing a :60 second TV ad in Maine/NY, So. Carolina, the Mid-West and Arizona. The ad hopes to define Wilson -- before his opponents paint a negative picture. The campaign also is pumping out a weekly fax memo to political reporters called, "**The Wilson Weekly**." It's not as lively as "Schnur Shots," but it will do. Stay tuned...

CARD CLUB MADNESS: IT'S TOUGH TO WIN THESE CASINO ELECTIONS, BUT 4 MORE ARE SET FOR '95

Editor's note: There have been 26 card club elections since about 1990, but only 5 of these initiatives have been approved by voters. Four(4) more are scheduled this year. Here's our update & analysis...

...Just because a city is going through tough economic times doesn't mean a thing in a local card club election. In fact, according to CALPEEK sources, there are at least 5 other elements that are usually needed for such a measure to have any chance at all. And make no mistake, winning a card club election is very tough...

...The 5 other elements include: 1) No law & order opposition; 2) the unanimous backing of the city council; 3) a good racial mix in the community so that ***jobs & the economy*** can be used as an issue; 4) a relatively small media market where the news media would rather cover anything but politics; and 5) a good location...

...There are only a handful of campaign consultants who *specialize* in card club/gaming/casino measures.

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The best known and most successful is Jerry Westlund, who ends up on the NO side 99% of the time. Ditto John Kern. Consultant Rick Taylor has done battle on both sides. At one time or another all three have worked for card club executive George Hardie. In fact, in most of these elections, the OPPOSITION (whether hidden or open) are other card clubs and/or other gaming or gambling interests. They don't want to divide the *money pie* any more than is necessary...

...Other consultants who have experienced the thrill and agony of a card club initiative include Mike Triggs, Ed McGovern, Larry Tramutola, David Townsend, Harvey Englander and George Young. Englander & Tramutola belong to a very exclusive club, because they have been on the YES side and won --- twice!!!

...For the remainder of the year, there will be 4 more card club initiatives: Sept. 12th in *So. San Francisco*; Oct. 24th in *Irwindale*; and Nov. 7th there will be two elections: in *San Mateo* (Bay Meadows initiative), where consultant Rich Robinson is on the YES side; and in *Pomona*, where the council has placed a card club measure on the ballot. This is the second time this year for Pomona voters. Westlund already has been signed up on the NO side in both So. San Francisco and Irwindale..

...FYI: Here's a rundown on most of the card club initiatives since 1990 by year and city. Winners will be in *italics*...

...1990 - Cathedral City, West Hollywood, Stanton;
1991 - South Gate; 1992 - National City, Santa Clara, Hawthorne, Long Beach, Baldwin Park, *Desert Hot Springs* and *Inglewood*; 1993 - Lynwood, West Hollywood(#2), Cypress, Stanton(#2), Pico Rivera, Bellflower; 1994 - So. El Monte, Lake Elsinore, Brisbane, Belmont, *Albany* (Golden Gate Fields), *Colma* and *San Pablo*; 1995 - Pomona and Pico Rivera(#2). There is a pattern and it seems to show that card club proposals have been doing better in Northern Calif. than in So. Calif. Stay tuned...

HUFFINGTON TO ADDRESS LINCOLN CLUB AUG. 18.
Michael Huffington will address members of the San Gabriel Valley Lincoln Club, 7:30 a.m., Aug. 18, Industry Hills Sheraton. For info & RSVPs, ☎ Sheila McNichols at (818)249-4205...

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY'S POLITICAL SOAP OPERA.
Editor's note: GOP Assemblyman Bill Hoge(R-Pasadena) has been making lots of headlines as of late, some of it *not very positive*. For those with short memories, Hoge is the guy who blew the whistle on attorney/former CRP Chair Mike Montgomery --- alleging Montgomery tried to bribe him in connection with a card club deal in Colma, Calif. Montgomery says he did nothing wrong. Please draw your own conclusions from this update & analysis...

...Congratulations to Assemblyman Hoge and Millie Erbe, who were married on Sunday, Aug. 6th. But just before they were married, the happy couple was greeted with a front page story in the Aug. 4th edition of the Pasadena Star News, with the headline: **Assemblyman Hoge does not live in district**. The subhead reads: **Documents show other addresses**. It's a well documented and complete story by PSN staffers Frank Girardot & Jennifer Burry...

...How did the Star News get wind of this info? Seems that Mrs. Hoge #2, Claudette, is on the divorce court warpath and such papers are public record. In her January 1995 petition for divorce, Mrs. Hoge #2 said her ex-hubby has not lived in their Pasadena home since July 15, 1994. You wouldn't expect him to if the two weren't getting along. Bottomline: Hoge won't be tossed out of the Assembly, but such headlines make for good hit mailers in a political campaign...

...But the story gets somewhat juicier because these are not the only papers/records about Hoge that Mrs. Hoge #2 is telling folks about. There's also Hoge's FPPC Form 90 Reports from 1994, which shows that between 3/18/94 and 12/31/94, an M. Erbe received four(4) payments totaling \$16,000 from Hoge. Hoge listed M. Erbe as a fundraising consultant. Hummmm...

...During 1994, while Millie Erbe was dating Hoge, she worked full time for GOP campaign consultant Robert Gouty of Covina. In fact, Erbe had worked for Gouty as his assistant for nearly 7 years. She resigned her job in mid-May of this year and now works as a field rep for Assemblyman Gary Miller(R-Diamond Bar). According to our sources, until recently Gouty was totally *unaware* of these payments from Hoge. Stay tuned...

POLL SHOWS VERY CLOSE RACE IN ALLEN RECALL

We now have some data to report in the 67th A.D. recall against Assembly Speaker Doris Allen(R) of Huntington Beach. The poll was paid for by Allen and was done by The Feldman Group of DC, 400 sample size, 7/30, likely voters. 85% of those questioned were aware of the recall effort. **Question #1:** Do you support or oppose the recall - 40% support, 37% oppose, 23% undecided. **Question #2:** push question with both pro & con arguments - 42% support recall, 43% oppose, 15% undecided. **Question #3:** after pushing the info about the GOP legislative agenda moving forward on Allen's watch - 39% support recall, 45% oppose, 17% undecided. Stay tuned...

SAN DIEGO GOP HOST CMT. UNDER SIEGE IN 1995.

Editor's note: A year from now, GOP delegates to the 1996 RNC Presidential Convention will be gathering in San Diego. But in the past few days up pops this very negative fax newsletter called *The Ninety-Sixer*, which takes some swipes at the official Host Cmt. Here's our brief report & analysis...

...It's very obvious from the tone of this newsletter that those behind it aren't happy campers. This newsletter, which one source says was faxed to 300 outlets in the U.S., including tons of political reporters, starts off by taking the usual shots at GOP Gov. Pete Wilson and San Diego Mayor Susan Golding(R), a Wilson loyalist who has statewide ambitions in 1998. (She faces re-election in 1996 - perhaps against popular State Sen. Lucy Killea)...

...But the real heavy stuff is about the *fundraising*. The fax says that of the \$11 million in cash promised to the RNC by the Host Cmt., very little has been raised so far. CALPEEK called the Host Cmt. for comment, but our call was not returned. In addition, the memo suggests that a *watchdog group* (which has not yet formed) will emerge to force the city (read that as Mayor Golding) to disclose where and how it will spend the \$13 million in city services it has promised the RNC. Very interesting...

...But the key questions raised by this memo is: what happens if the Host Cmt. doesn't raise the promised \$11 million? Is there a point in time when the RNC has to perhaps pull the plug on San Diego and make other arrangements? Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '96: ADDING MORE NAMES TO THE MIX.

Editor's note: Here is another update on who's IN and who's OUT in U.S. House & Legislative races for '96. As financial reports come in, we'll update you on how much the candidates are raising...

☑ **9th S.D.** - Assemblyman Bob Campbell(D-Martinez) has hired the Campaign Performance Group for mail, Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin for polling and Media & Assoc. for media relations/research. Campbell will be in tough Demo primary with Assemblywoman Barbara Lee of Oakland. The 9th S.D. is currently held by Nick Petris(D-Oakland), who is *termed out* in '96...

☑ **40th A.D.** - Demo attorney Robert Hertzberg reports raising \$99,062 during the last reporting period (which includes \$11,587 in non-monetary contributions). Hertzberg's COH is just over \$100,000...

☑ **19th S.D.** - Add the name of Dave Mandelkern, a hi-tech business executive from Hillsborough, to the list of Demos seeking to replace Jackie Speier(D), who is *termed out* in '96. Also in the primary are Daly City Mayor Madolyn Agrimonte and former Demo Assemblyman Lou Papen, who has hired Staton, Hughes & Shafer as his campaign consultants. Mandelkern has hired Robinson Communications as his general consultants; Paul Kinney for media; Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin for polling; and Bryan Godbe. Mandelkern, who got into the primary 3-4 weeks ago, reported raising almost \$50,000 for the period ending 6/30. Papen reported raising nearly \$90,000, with \$86,327 COH...

☑ **38th A.D.** - GOP candidate Scott Wilk, who is COS to current Assemblywoman Paula Boland(R-Northridge), reports raising \$91,303. Wilk had about \$62,000 COH. Boland, to no one's surprise, has endorsed Wilk. GOP rival Ross Hopkins showed loans of \$49,000 and \$25,000 in cash raised, with \$66,294 COH...

"CAR WARS": PRSA TO HEAR BOTH SIDES AUG. 17.

The L.A. Chpt. of PRSA will hear from Japanese and U.S. auto spin doctors as they discuss the U.S.-Japan auto trade agreement, 11:30 a.m. reception, 12 noon lunch, Aug. 17, Sheraton Grande, downtown L.A. For info & RSVPs, ☎ PRSA/LA at (213)461-4595...

U.S. SEN. BOXER TO ADDRESS WIPA/PA OFFICERS.

U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer(D-CA) will be the guest speaker at a joint luncheon hosted by the L.A. Public Affairs Officers Assn. and Women In Public Affairs, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Aug. 28, Hotel Inter-Continental, downtown L.A. WIPA members should ☎ Michelle Brooks at (310)496-2257; PA Officers Assn. members should ☎ Debby Ishihara at (818)777-3591...

CALPEEK's INFOBAHN: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are a few political items worth noting...

◆ **17th A.D. Recall Update** - With the recall election of Assemblyman Michael Machado(D-Linden) set for Aug. 22nd, the San Joaquin Co. Registrar reports that 38,843 ballots were mailed to voters as of 8/8/95. As of this same date, about 6,000 to 8,000 have been returned. Total number of AV requests is now at about 43,000, but the registrar reports about 4,000 to 5,000 duplicates...

◆ **Vasquez to Resign** - No big shock, but Orange Co. Sup. Gaddi Vasquez, once a rising star in the CA GOP, will resign his seat Sept. 22nd, way short of his full term. He had already announced that he would not seek reelection. About 3 weeks ago an official recall was launched by Vasquez critics, who were not happy with the way he has handled county's fiscal mess since bankruptcy. The big question is whom Gov. Pete Wilson will appoint to fill out the term? The long list (and it's long) includes GOP Assemblyman Mickey Conroy, who plans to run next year regardless; O.C. County GOP Chair Tom Fuentes; ex Tustin Mayor Donald Saltarelli; La Habra Councilman Bill Mahoney; Lake Forest Mayor Richard Dixon; former Orange Mayor Jim Beam; FPPC Chair Ravi Mehta (an ex-Vasquez aide/ex Deputy DA); O.C. BIA exec. director Christine Diemer; Rancho Santiago College Pres. Pete Maddox; Placentia P.D. Chief Manny Ortega, a close Vasquez ally/already a Wilson appointee. The early insider favorite is Saltarelli, but others like Ortega or Mehta...

◆ **Full Metal Jacket** - Now there's an exclusive talk radio show just for gun lovers --- the folks who hate Pres. Bill Clinton, want the assault weapons ban repealed and want the CCW (carrying concealed weapons) laws reformed. The show is called It's Not About Guns and airs every Tuesday from 8:30 p.m. to

10:30 p.m. on L.A.-area station KIEV-AM. We happened to catch part of the show the other night and listened as callers not only bashed Clinton, but Dole, Gingrich and the GOP as well. Many of these callers were disappointed that the GOP had not delivered on '94 campaign promises and were urging other listeners for vote for 3rd party candidates. Interesting stuff...

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

● Steven J. Silberman has joined the L.A.-based C.S. Davis Company as a Sr. VP. Prior to joining the firm, Silberman was Exec. VP of External Affrs. for Allied Parking. He is a L.A. City Fire & Police Pension Commissioner...

● Paul Goodwin has been named Exec. VP of GLS Research and will be in charge of the firm's So. Calif. office at 233 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 290, Santa Monica, CA 90401, ☎ (310)587-3474. Prior to taking this job with GLS, Goodwin was a VP with Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin & Assoc...

● David Novak, who served briefly as L.A. Mayor Richard Riordan's director of communications, has opened his own PA consulting firm, Novak Communications, 12300 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 420, L.A. 90025. ☎ (310)442-0224...

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